

WORKERS OF ALL COUNTRIES, UNITE!

FORTNIGHTLY BULLETIN **DURUM** **COMMUNIST PARTY OF TURKEY**

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CONTENTS

1. Message of the TKP Central Committee to the 23rd Congress of the French Communist Party.
2. Message of the TKP Central Committee to the 7th Congress of the Communist Party of El Salvador.
3. Those arrested on May Day must be released.
4. The fascist-Maoist terror is mounting.
5. The political and military impositions of imperialism are increasing.
6. New colonialist pressures

TO THE 23rd CONGRESS OF THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY

Dear Comrades,

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkey (TKP) greets the delegates taking part in the 23rd Congress of the French Communist Party, all communists and the working class of France, on behalf of the communists and working class of Turkey. We wish success to your congress.

Under the leadership of the PCF, the working class and working people of France are struggling against exploitation and oppression by the monopolies. This struggle is at the same time directed against the political, military and economic organisations of imperialism such as NATO and the EEC. The PCF is striving to unite all anti-monopoly, democratic force in this struggle. It unequivocally condemns the barbaric attack of the Peking rulers against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Sparing no aid to the peoples fighting for national and social liberation, the PCF is showing internationalist solidarity. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the PCF for the solidarity it has shown with the TKP and the democratic forces of Turkey.

The working class and people of Turkey are waging a formidable struggle against imperialism and the collaborating monopoly bourgeoisie for an advanced democracy which will grow socialism under ever more difficult conditions. Martial law, which has been extended for a further 2 months and now covers 19 provinces, is being directed with greater intensity against communists, the working class and the Kurdish people. New and more serious charges have been brought against the managing editor of the *Ürün* publishing house for its legal publication of the programme of the TKP. Attacks by fascist gangs continue without let-up. Last year, 1200 people were killed and over 7000 wounded as a result of these attacks; in the first three months of this year there have been 313 killed and over 500 wounded. None of the fascist ring-leaders who organised the bloody massacre in Kahramanmaraş have been prosecuted or punished.

The government dominated by the Republican People's Party (RPP), a member of the Socialist International, bows to imperialist pressures and compromises with the reactionaries to put the burden of the crisis on to the backs of the working masses. On the other hand, it applies tactics designed to divide the working class and trade union movements, break up the class trade unions, weaken them and take the struggle of the working class under its control.

This year, May Day was celebrated as the day of struggle, unity and solidarity of the international working class under very difficult conditions. The government banned May Day in İstanbul and imposed a curfew by way of martial law. It imprisoned and filled the stadiums with trade union leaders, the presidents of socialist parties, hundreds of progressive patriotic people. Nevertheless, in spite of all bans, provocations and obstacles, our working class, communists, socialists, patriotic, democratic and revolutionary forces, over 100,000 working people, took part in a conscious, well-organised and disciplined, magnificent May Day demonstration. They raised the flag of struggle against imperialism, NATO, the threat of fascism and exploitation by the monopolies, demanding freedom for the TKP and expressing their adherence

to proletarian internationalism.

The TKP is organising the struggle of our people, of our working class first and foremost, against imperialism, the domestic and foreign monopolies and the landlords. In these struggles, it is striving with all its might to establish the unity of the working class, the worker-peasant alliance, and the front of national democratic forces. It demands withdrawal from NATO, an end to dependence on imperialism and an end to the arms race, the development of our country's relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, and the adoption of a peaceful, non-aligned and active foreign policy. It is waging a ceaseless struggle against all forms of anti-Sovietism.

The TKP is exposing to our people the hostile, aggressive policy that the reactionary Peking rulers are waging, in cooperation with imperialism, against world peace, the world socialist system, the national liberation movements and the peoples of the world. It is waging a resolute struggle against the Maoists who have become the allies of reactionary-fascist forces in our country. The TKP never strays from the path of strengthening the unity of the world communist and workers' movement on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian Internationalism. It does not and will not make the smallest concession from these principles.

Dear Comrades,

We wish success to the 23rd Congress of the PCF and in your struggles ahead.

8 May 1979

I.Bilen,

General Secretary,

In the name of the Central Committee,
Communist Party of Turkey

TO THE SEVENTH CONGRESS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF EL SALVADOR

Esteemed Comrades,

On behalf of all communists and workers of Turkey, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkey greets with deep revolutionary feelings, the 7th Congress of the Communist Party of El Salvador.

The Communist Party, the working class and people of El Salvador are struggling against American imperialism, the hegemony of domestic and foreign monopolies, fascist escalation in the country, for national independence, democracy and socialism. The influence of the Communist Party of El Salvador is increasing among the working class. It is scoring successes in establishing the trade-union unity of the working class and the broad unity of front of the democratic parties and democratic forces, in the face of worsening living conditions of the masses of the people and the danger of open fascism.

American imperialism is also the mortal enemy of the working class and people of Turkey. The struggle of the people of El Salvador is also the struggle of the people of Turkey. We are fighting against the same enemy, and for the same aims. The TKP has fraternal ties with the Communist Party of El

Salvador based on the principles of proletarian internationalism and Marxism-Leninism.

We wish success to the 7th Congress of the Communist Party of El Salvador and renewed and great successes in its future hard struggles.

Long live the 7th Congress of the Communist Party of El Salvador!

Long live Marxism-Leninism!

I.Bilen

General Secretary, Central Committee,
Communist Party of Turkey.

THOSE ARRESTED ON MAY DAY MUST BE RELEASED

Repressions are continuing against the working class, trade-unionists, socialists, communists and all progressive forces who, despite all attacks, obstacles and provocations of martial law, the government, reactionary-fascist forces and Maoists, celebrated May Day, the day of struggle, unity and solidarity of the world proletariat, in an organised manner and with revolutionary slogans.

The Martial Law Headquarters has decided on the arrest of those who were detained on the eve of May Day and on May Day itself. Thus the president of the Workers' Party of Turkey (TİP), Mrs. Behice Boran, and 331 TİP members were arrested by Martial Law Headquarters in Istanbul. Their hearings will take place on 19 May. The Martial Law prosecutor demands sentences of imprisonment from 7 days to one year. The president of the Confederation of Revolutionary Trade Unions (DİSK), Mr. Baştürk, and seven other leaders of DİSK were also arrested by the İstanbul Martial Law Headquarters. Charges were brought against them and the hearing will start on 21 May. Terms of imprisonment ranging from 7 days to one year are being demanded for the leaders of DİSK.

At the same time, various repressions are being intensified against the progressive, patriotic and democratic forces which took part in the 100,000-strong May Day demonstration in İzmir. Mr. Aytaç Eryılmaz, the editor of **Temel** publications, which published the May Day brochure, was arrested for propagating "communism". The military prosecutor for the Ankara Martial Law – Military Court is demanding that Mr Eryılmaz be tried under the fascist Article 142. Police and agents of the National Intelligence Agency (MIT) have launched a wide-spread campaign of intimidation against village working people, members of the Village Cooperatives (Köy-Koop) in Edirne who took part in the May Day Demonstration. Many members of Köy-Koop have been interrogated at police headquarters. In Bartın an investigations is being conducted against teachers who took part in May Day demonstrations. Members of the Progressive Youth Organisation (İGD), the Teachers' Association (TÖB-DER), and representatives of various progressive organisations were detained while traveling by bus back to Trabzon after the May Day demonstration in İzmir. On the eve of May Day, the government closed the

headquarters and all the branches of the Progressive Women's Organisation (İKD).

The struggle for the release of those arrested on May Day, and an end to the persecution of progressive associations and organisations, is expanding. In its statement on 2 May, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkey (TKP) demanded the immediate release of all the arrested leaders of socialist parties and trade unions, of all patriots. A joint statement made by 26 democratic organisations, among them the Metal Workers' Union (Maden-İş), Bank Employees' Union (Bank-Sen), Public Workers' Union (Bay-Sen), the Petro-Chemical Workers' Union (Petkim-İş), Cement Workers' Union (Beton-İş), the Journalists' Union (Yeni Haber-İş), the Progressive High-School Students' Union (İLD), the Apprentices' Association (Çırak-Der), and the Chamber of Mechanical Engineers, emphasized that, in spite of all obstacles, May Day was celebrated in İzmir with a magnificent demonstration in which 100,000 people took part. They demanded the immediate release of all those arrested on May Day, and the legal recognition of May Day as the workers' holiday.

A statement released following a meeting organised jointly by the Executive Committees of the Maden-İş, Bank-Sen and Baysen trade unions demanded the release of those arrested on May Day, and the establishment of a common platform of progressive trade unions and all democratic forces.

The vice-president of the Chamber of Mechanical Engineers, Gözen, declared that advance preparations had been made to turn İnönü stadium into a Chile-style concentration camp for those to be arrested on May Day, and that a "Concentration camp command" had been established in Dolmabahçe. He demanded the repeal of martial law. Progressive patriotic youth protested the mass arrests on May Day at a demonstration in Istanbul. 335 members of the teaching staff at Ege (Aegean) University sent a letter to Prime Minister Ecevit demanding the release of those arrested on May Day. And 17,000 signatures have been collected in an Ankara signature campaign for their release. The Chief of the İstanbul Bar, Orhan Apaydın, demanded the immediate release of those arrested on May Day. All these characterised the government's antidemocratic actions as trampling on human rights. Twenty democratic organisations in Istanbul protested the anti-democratic operation on May Day and demanded the release of all those arrested.

THE FASCIST-MAOIST TERRORISM IS MOUNTING

In the first half of May, 15 people were killed and many citizens wounded as a result of bloody attacks. In Elazığ, a teacher, member of the teachers' organisation TÖB-DER, was killed in a fascist attack. In Istanbul, a teacher, Doğan Erdoğan, also a member of TÖB-DER, was killed by fascists in his own home. Fascist commandos also killed a student from the Teacher Training College in Bursa. Fascist followers of Türkeş declared that the student was killed because, "he was a communist". A worker in Eskişehir was also the victim of a fascist attack.

The Maoists attacked the people in Antakya, including members of the

Progressive Youth Organisation (IGD) and the Progressive Womens' Organisation (IKD). As a result of this attack, 5 people were wounded. A Maoist attack against young members of the IGD in İzmir left 3 wounded.

Three members of the IGD protesting against fascist attacks were detained by police in Istanbul. Members of the Trabzon branch of the IKD were attacked by police for distributing the newspaper "Women's Voice". Fifteen members of the IKD were detained. Erdoğan Özgen of Temel Publications was detained as he was distributing the journal "Art Labour" (Sanat Emegi) in the Aksaray district of Istanbul. Previously, another official of Temel Publications, Baki Temel Saçlı, had also been detained. Nevzat Arttiran, the publisher's Adana representative will be tried in the Adana 3rd Felony Court on the 17th of May, charged under fascist article 142 of the penal code.

Faced with mounting fascist attacks, the directors of 57 schools in Istanbul, and the Istanbul branches of TOB-DER, have declared that there is no security of life. They said that they would refuse to go to work unless the lives of teachers are safeguarded. They asked for permission to carry fire arms for self defence.

At this time, when bloody fascist and Maoist attacks have reached such large proportions, the government is attempting to impose a new anti-democratic law under the name of 'Draft Emergency Law', which is principally aimed at increasing the persecution of progressive democratic forces. Under this law, provincial mayors and local administrators of villages would have great authority to step up repression. They would be able to make much more intensive use of gendarme forces. They would be able to force any citizen between the ages of 16-60 to work whenever they want.

THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY IMPOSITIONS OF IMPERIALISM ARE INCREASING

The impositions and pressures put on Turkey and the Ecevit government by imperialism and NATO are mounting. These impositions and pressures are aimed at enhancing the military role of Turkey in the southeast wing of NATO, binding Turkey more tightly to the strategic plans of NATO, extending the 5-year pact governing imperialist bases of aggression and espionage on our territory, relocating in Turkey the espionage installations thrown out of Iran, establishing new bases of aggression, storing atomic weapons and giving U-2 espionage planes free flying rights in the skies of Turkey.

These topics were the subject of talks held in Ankara between the American Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Christopher, Prime Minister Ecevit and various ministers and army commanders. However, American imperialism's impositions on Turkey found clearer expression in an editorial in the "New York Times". The newspaper wrote: 'Christopher's visit to Ankara is related to the assignment to Turkey of the role of gendarme in the Mediterranean. The US attaches great importance to the bases in Turkey in the

bolstering up of its weakening position in the Middle East and for its ability to control the entire Mediterranean region.

The Ecevit government does not follow a policy in defence of peace and national interests against these impositions of NATO and imperialism. It bows to their demands. It is negotiating on the questions of new bases of aggression. It is speculating over the Salt-2 agreement which is close to being signed by the Soviet Union and the USA. It is following a two-faced policy. At the same time, those who say 'No to NATO' are being prosecuted in military courts. There are attempts to equate opposition to NATO with "insulting the Turkish army". Thus, the Ecevit government, while talking about detente on the one hand, is following a policy of establishing closer ties with NATO, the source of aggression, on the other. In an interview with "**Le Monde**", Ecevit confirmed this policy by saying, "we are not considering withdrawal from NATO". The Turkish Defence Minister Akmandor, attending the last NATO meeting in Brussels, said "yes" to the fanning of the arms race and the raising of arms expenditures.

All these show that the government is persisting in its pro-NATO policies. These policies of subjugation are applied so crudely that even the most die-hard pro-Americans are obliged to comment that Washington does not treat its friend Turkey very well. A Justice Party MP, Kamuran Inan, said, "America looks at us, not as an ally, but as a base." Even the president of the Senate Foreign Relations Commission said, "The time has come for a serious review of US-Turkey relations in the light of recent events".

These impositions and pressures of imperialism and NATO constitute a new, crude attack on our national independence and sovereign rights. The conduct of the Ecevit government is tantamount to submitting to blackmail and efforts to trample national honour underfoot.

Our people do not want American bases, U-2 spying planes or nuclear rockets on our land. They want peace, independence and relations of friendship with our neighbours. The TKP is struggling for withdrawal from NATO, the dismantling of the bases, and the tearing up of enslaving bilateral agreements, for the adoption of an independent and peaceful foreign policy and for developing relations of friendship and cooperation with all our neighbours, in particular, the Soviet Union. To this end, it calls all progressive and patriotic forces, organisations and associations on the side of independence and democracy, to unity of strength and action.

NEW COLONIALIST PRESSURES

The devaluation of the Turkish lira has worsened the economic crisis. The economy of Turkey faces bankruptcy. The 1979 deficit in foreign payments is projected to be \$5 billion. The total amount of foreign debts approaches \$20 billion. The government is anxious to put the burden of the economic crises for which the monopolies are responsible, onto the shoulders of the working

masses. Ecevit is again begging from the imperialists. At the Guadeloupe summit, the four big imperialist countries decided to give "aid" to Turkey via the international organisations of the imperialist monopolies. Hoping to expand its markets and its economic and political sphere of influence, Federal Germany has led the way. The imperialists' conditions, are: the freezing of wages and salaries, the lifting of all manner of price control on industrial products, radical reductions in subsidies to the nationalised industries, the extension of the premium exchange rates applied to workers' remittances to imports, further and bigger devaluations. Their long-term demands involve the floating of the Turkish lira and its continued fall in value.

The Ecevit government is bowing to the imperialists and their collaborators. As it yields, it faces demands aimed at greater profits and increased pressures. In concurrence with the military pressures of NATO and the economic pressures of the IMF, the collaborating monopoly bourgeoisie is pushing Ecevit further back. Advertisements published by TUSIAD (the employers' confederation), newspapers and statements are repeating demands for restriction of trade union rights, the imposition of even more severe economic measures against the people, the taking out of further foreign credits, greater integration with foreign capital, and increased purchase of technology from capitalist countries. All these are the demands of imperialism. The imperialists have drawn Turkey into such a web of exploitation.

The TKP is struggling for an end to all manner of dependence on imperialism and development of many-sided relations with our neighbours, first and foremost the socialist countries, relations based on mutual benefit.

